

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GENEVA 09973 161418Z
ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 IOE-00 EB-03 /010 W
----- 028266 /42 R
O 161405Z DEC 76
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4245

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 9973

LIMDIS

FOR IO/EX/IR, IO/TRC AND EB/TD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETEL, ITU
SUBJ: ITU: D-1 POST (COOK POSITION)

REF: (A) STATE 300781 (B) GENEVA 9858

1. MISSION LEARNED WITH DISMAY FROM DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL BUTLER LATE DECEMBER 15 THAT IN ABSENCE OF SYG MILI, IT HAD BEEN DECIDED TO POSTPONE COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING FROM DECEMBER 16 TO MID-JANUARY. THIS IS MEETING WHICH WOULD HAVE PREPARED SHORT LIST FOR SYG FOR SUBJECT POSITION. BUTLER ADDED THAT COOK HAD AGREED TO EXTEND UNTIL MARCH 31.

2. THIS WAS OBVIOUSLY A SNAP DECISION AS MISSION OFFICER MET WITH COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEMBER CCITT DIRECTOR BURTZ SEVERAL HOURS BEFORE SPEAKING WITH BUTLER AND BURTZ WAS THEN PREPARING FOR CC MEETING ON FOLLOWING MORNING.

3. BUTLER WAS VERY UNCOMMUNICATIVE ABOUT REASONS FOR THE POSTPONEMENT, SAYING ONLY THAT THERE WERE "A NUMBER" OF VERY GOOD CANDIDATES AND IT WAS DESIRABLE THAT COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS HAVE MORE TIME TO MAKE A THOROUGH STUDY OF THEIR QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS IMPORTANT POST. THIS SEEMS A VERY LAME EXCUSE TO US SINCE CC MEMBERS (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF BURTZ) HAVE ALREADY HAD OVER ONE MONTH TO STUDY CURRICULUM VITAE. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, MISSION BELIEVES IT WOULD NOT BE AMISS FOR JOHN O'NEILL TO CALL BUTLER, EXPRESS U.S. DISAPPOINTMENT
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OVER DECISION AND REQUEST EXPLANATION.

4. GIVEN THIS LATEST TURN OF EVENTS, IT NO LONGER APPEARS
THAT TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE IN PROVENCHER'S VISIT TO GENEVA
TO SEE MILI. ANY TIME BEFORE MID-JANUARY WOULD PROBABLY
BE SUITABLE.

5. IN VIEW OF EXPRESSED INTEREST OF DEPARTMENT AND CONGRESS
IN PLACING HIGH LEVEL, WELL QUALIFIED AMERICANS IN INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATION POSTS, MISSION IS SURPRISED THAT CANDIDATE PROVENCHER
IS BEING FORCED TO PAY HIS OWN WAY TO GENEVA TO BE INTERVIEWED
FOR THIS MAJOR POSITION.CATTO

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TELECOMMUNICATION, PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GENEVA09973
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760463-0242
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761238/aaaabgio.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 76 STATE 300781, 76 GENEVA 9858
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 MAY 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <07 SEP 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ITU: D-1 POST (COOK POSITION)
TAGS: ETEL, APER, US, ITU, (COOK, RUSSELL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006